

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01
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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO
USDOCOSOUTH INTAF
USCINCEUR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 6151

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH, YO, RO, IR, PEPR
SUBJ: HUA KUO-FENG VISIT

REF: (A) BELGRADE 6115, (B) BELGRADE 6149

1. DAY TWO OF HUA'S VISIT TO BELGRADE STARTED WITH A 9:00 AM
CALL ON HUA AT THE WHITE PALACE BY FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (FEC)
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PRESIDENT DJURANOVIC AND A MID-MORNING OPEN-CAR MOTORCADE THROUGH
TOWN TO THE FEC BUILDING IN NEW BELGRADE WITH TITO. FURTHER TALKS
WITH TITO AT THE FEC TOOK PLACE, TO BE FOLLOWED BY PLANTING OF THE
"TREE OF PEACE" AT THE PARK OF FRIENDSHIP, A VISIT TO THE MILITARY
MUSEUM, AND A CEREMONY AT WHICH HUA WILL RECEIVE THE GOLDEN PLAQUE
OF THE CITY OF BELGRADE. THIS EVENING HE IS TO ATTEND A CULTURAL
PERFORMANCE AT THE NATIONAL THEATER.

2. THE MOTORCADE WAS TWENTY MINUTES LATE BUT OTHERWISE PROCEEDED WITHOUT A HITCH. TITO, DAPPER AND TANNED IN A WELL-CUT LIGHT SUIT AND WHITE GLOVES, STOOD NEXT TO HUA IN THE OPEN CAR THROUGHOUT THE FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MOTORCADE, WITHOUT APPARENT DIFFICULTY, WAVING SOMEWHAT MECHANICALLY. TITO ACKNOWLEDGED THE ASSEMBLED CITIZENRY WITH HIS USUAL RATHER FIXED PUBLIC SMILE. THE CHINESE, BY CONTRAST, WERE ALL SMILES, LEANING OUT OF THE CARS, WAVING ENTHUSIASTICALLY, AND OBVIOUSLY HAVING A GOOD TIME. AS USUAL, A GRAY AMBULANCE TRAILED THE LONG COLUMN OF NON-ALIGNED LUXURY CARS MANUFACTURED IN THE WEST, MOSTLY MERCEDES.

3. THE STREETS HAD BEEN FRESHLY SWEEPED AND WASHED (WHICH IS A GOOD REASON FOR ENCOURAGING MORE HIGH LEVEL VISITS TO BELGRADE) AND FESTOONED WITH FLAGS, BANNERS, AND ENORMOUS PORTRAITS OF HUA AND TITO. THIS MORNING YOUTH BRIGADES SUDDENLY APPEARED ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE, FEVERISHLY DIGGING, WORKING, AND BEING OSTENTATIOUSLY BUSY. KOLA DANCERS WERE ON TERAZIJE SQUARE AND AT THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BUILDING ON THE MOTORCADE ROUTE. COURIOUS, GOOD-NATURED AND ADEQUATELY ENTHUSIASTIC CROWDS THREE OR FOUR PERSONS DEEP LINED THE STREETS, WAVING FLAGS AND FLOWERS DISTRIBUTED BY THE PARTY FAITHFUL. THE YUGOSLAVS ESTIMATE THE CROWD VARIOUSLY FROM 200,00 - 450,000, BUT WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT IT CERTAINLY NUMBERED LESS THAN THE ABOVE MAXIMUM, AND CERTAINLY FAR LESS THAN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE TURN-OUT FOR BREZHNEV'S VISIT IN NOVEMBER, 1976. IN SHORT, IT SEEMS TO US THAT DESPITE THE HEAVY BARRAGE OF CHINESE-ORIENTED MATERIAL IN THE PRESS AND ON TV, THE EVER PRAGMATIC YUGOSLAVS OPTED FOR AUGUST HOLIDAYS OVER DEMONSTRATIONS OF YUGOSLAV-CHINESE FRIENDSHIP.
WORTZEL

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